



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Attila Grauzer, et al. Examiner: Benjamin Layno
Serial No. 10/725,833 Group Art Unit: 3711
Filed: December 2, 2003 Docket No.: PA0941.ap.US
Title: DEVICE AND METHOD FOR FORMING AND DELIVERING
HANDS FROM RANDOMLY ARRANGED DECKS OF PLAYING
CARDS

COMMUNICATION RE: ISSUE FEE TRANSMITTAL

MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

In response to the "Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due", dated December 12, 2007, (see enclosed copy), we submit the signed Issue Fee Transmittal along with Shuffle Master, Inc. check no.811128 for \$1,770.00 to cover the issue fee of \$1440.00, \$300.00 for the publication fee and \$30.00 for 10 additional copies. Applicant now claims large entity status.

Applicant assumes the application is now in proper order and in condition for issuance.

Please direct any inquiries to the undersigned attorney at (952) 832-9090.

Respectfully submitted,

ATTILA GRAUZER, et al.

By Their Representatives,

MARK A. LITMAN & ASSOCIATES, P.A.
York Business Center, Suite 205
3209 West 76th Street
Edina, Minnesota 55435
(952) 832-9090

Date: 12 March 2008

By: Mark A. Litman

Mark A. Litman
Reg. No. 26,390

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this Transmittal Letter and the paper, as described herein, are being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Issue Fee, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on 12 March 2008.

Mark A. Litman
Name

Signature



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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CARDS


MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

- ☒ Form PTOL-85B (1pg), plus Shuffle Master, Inc. check no 811128
- ☒ Communication Re: Issue Fee Transmittal
- ☒ Copy of Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due,
- ☒ Notice of Allowability, Examiner's Amendment, (7 pages)
- ☒ Interview Summary
- ☒ Determination of Patent Term Adjustment
- ☒ Transmittal Sheet
- ☒ Return postcard

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for sufficient number of months to enter these papers if an additional extension of time is deemed necessary by the Office. Authorization is hereby given to charge Deposit Account Number 50-1391 if such additional extension is necessary.

MARK A. LITMAN & ASSOCIATES, P.A.
York Business Center, Suite 205, 3209 W. 76th St.
Edina, MN 55435 (952-832-9090)

By: 
Atty: Mark A. Litman
Reg. No. 26,390

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this Transmittal Letter and the paper, as described herein, are being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Issue Fee, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on 12 March 2008

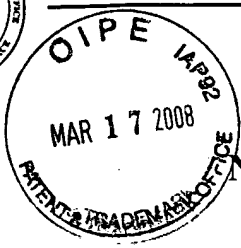
Mark A. Litman
Name

Signature 



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

me

7590

12/12/2007

MARK A. LITMAN & ASSOCIATES, P.A.
Suite 205
York Business Center
3209 West 76th St.
Edina, MN 55435

EXAMINER	
LAYNO, BENJAMIN	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER

3711

DATE MAILED: 12/12/2007

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/725,833	12/02/2003	Attila Grauzer	PA0941.AP.US	3573

TITLE OF INVENTION: DEVICE AND METHOD FOR FORMING AND DELIVERING HANDS FROM RANDOMLY ARRANGED DECKS OF PLAYING CARDS

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	YES	\$720	\$300	\$0	\$1020	03/12/2008

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FOR 1 WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.





Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/725,833

Examiner

Benjamin H. Layno

Applicant(s)

GRAUZER ET AL.

Art Unit

3711

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the interview on 11/21/07 and Applicant's response filed 08/21/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 36-62.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 11/21/07.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mark Litman on 11/21/07.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 44, between lines 3 and 4, the new recitation --providing a shuffling chamber in the apparatus;-- has been inserted.

In claim 44, line 4, the word "apparatus" has been changed to --shuffling chamber--.

In claim 44, line 7, the word "apparatus" has been changed to --shuffling chamber--.

In claim 44, line 8, the recitation "an area in the apparatus" has been changed to --the shuffling chamber--.

In claim 44, line 12, the word "providing" has been changed to --forming--.

In claim 44, line 13, the new recitation --in the shuffling chamber, an delivering the second individual set of randomly mixed playing cards--has been inserted after "cards" and before "into".

In claim 44, line 13, the new word --same-- has been inserted after "the" and before "single".

In claim 44, line 13, the new recitation —in the play of a single round of cards— has been inserted after “tray” and before “.”.

In claim 51, between lines 3 and 4, the new recitation --providing a shuffling chamber in the apparatus;-- has been inserted.

In claim 51, line 4, the new recitation —the shuffling chamber from the at least one deck of playing cards; delivering to-- has been inserted after “in” and before “a single”.

In claim 51, line 4, the new recitation --the first group of randomly mixed playing cards-- has been inserted after “tray” and before “,”.

In claim 51, line 7, the word “within” has been deleted and the recitation --in the shuffling chamber, and delivering the second group of randomly mixed playing cards to-- has been inserted in its place.

In claim 51, line 8, the new recitation --from the same single delivery tray-- has been inserted after “removed” and before “and”.

In claim 56, between lines 3 and 4, the new recitation --providing a shuffling chamber in the apparatus;-- has been inserted.

In claim 56, line 4, the word “apparatus” has been deleted, and in its place the new recitation --shuffling chamber from the at least one deck of playing cards—has been inserted in its place.

In claim 56, line 5, the new recitation —from the shuffling chamber—has been inserted after “cards” and before “into”.

In claim 56, line 5, the new recitation --with all cards in the transferred group present in the single delivery tray at the same time-- has been inserted after "tray" and before ";

In claim 56, line 7, the word "within" has been deleted, and in its place the new recitation --in the shuffling chamber, and delivering the second group of randomly mixed playing cards to--has been inserted in its place.

In claim 56, line 9, the new recitation --in the play of a single round of cards-- has been inserted after "play" and before ".".

In claim 61, between lines 3 and 4, the new recitation -- providing a shuffling chamber in the apparatus;-- has been inserted.

In claim 61, line 4 the new recitation --the shuffling chamber from the at least one deck of playing cards, transferring a first group of randomly mixed playing cards from the shuffling chamber to-- has been inserted after "cards in" and before "a single".

In claim 61, line 5, the new recitation --first transferred-- has been inserted after "in the" and before "group".

In claim 61, line 7, the word "within" has been deleted, and in its place the new recitation --in the shuffling chamber, and delivering the second group of randomly mixed playing cards to--has been inserted in its place.

In claim 61, line 8, the recitation --from the same single delivery tray--has been inserted after "removed" and before "in the".

In claim 62, between lines 3 and 4, the new recitation -- providing a shuffling chamber in the apparatus;-- has been inserted.

In claim 62, line 4, the word "apparatus" has been deleted, and the new recitation --shuffling chamber from the at least one deck of playing cards-- has been inserted in its place.

In claim 62, line 5, the word "the" has been changed to --a--.

In claim 62, line 5, the new recitation --from the shuffling chamber--has been inserted after "cards" and before "into".

In claim 62, line 5, the new recitation --with all cards in the transferred group present in the single delivery tray at the same time--has been inserted after "tray" and before ";

In claim 62, line 6 the new word --transferred--has been inserted after "removing the" and before "group".

In claim 62, line 7, the word "within" has been deleted, and in its place the new recitation --in the shuffling chamber, and delivering the second group of randomly mixed playing cards to--has been inserted in its place.

In claim 62, line 8, the recitation --from the same single delivery tray--has been inserted after "removed" and before "in the".

Reasons For Allowance

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: None of the cited references alone or in combination teach the claimed step of also "providing a shuffling chamber in the apparatus", "randomly forming a group of playing cards in the shuffling chamber", "transferring a randomly formed group of cards from the shuffling

chamber into a single delivery tray with all cards in the transferred group present in the single delivery tray at the same time" and "delivering a second group of randomly mixed playing cards to the same single delivery tray after the first group of randomized playing cards are removed from the same single delivery tray in the play of a single round of cards". The patent to Kelley does not disclose a shuffling chamber that is separate from the delivery tray, wherein a group of cards is randomly formed in the shuffling chamber, then the group of cards is transferred from the shuffling chamber to the single delivery tray.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

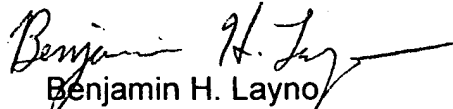
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Benjamin H. Layno whose telephone number is (571) 272-4424. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 1st Friday Off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Eugene Kim can be reached on (571)272-4463. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

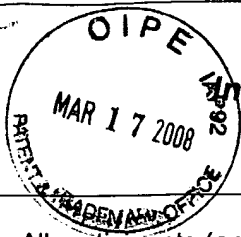
Application/Control Number:
10/725,833
Art Unit: 3711

Page 7

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


Benjamin H. Layno
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3711

bhl



Interview Summary

Application No.

10/725,833

Applicant(s)

GRAUZER ET AL.

Examiner

Benjamin H. Layno

Art Unit

3711

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

(1) Benjamin H. Layno.

(3) _____.

(2) Mark Litman.

(4) _____.

Date of Interview: 21 November 2007.

Type: a) ☒ Telephonic b) ☐ Video Conference
c) ☐ Personal [copy given to: 1) ☐ applicant 2) ☐ applicant's representative]

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d) ☐ Yes e) ☒ No.

If Yes, brief description: _____.

Claim(s) discussed: 44,51,56,61 and 62.

Identification of prior art discussed: _____.

Agreement with respect to the claims f) ☒ was reached. g) ☐ was not reached. h) ☐ N/A.

Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: The Examiner indicated that there was allowable subject matter, however, it was not clearly recited in the claims. The Examiner and Applicant's Representative agreed to a proposed amendment to the claims that would place the case in condition for allowance.

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable, if available, must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments that would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN A NON-EXTENDABLE PERIOD OF THE LONGER OF ONE MONTH OR THIRTY DAYS FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE, OR THE MAILING DATE OF THIS INTERVIEW SUMMARY FORM, WHICHEVER IS LATER, TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. See Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse side or on attached sheet.

Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an Attachment to a signed Office action.

Examiner's signature, if required



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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MAR 17 2008

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/725,833	12/12/2007	Attila Grauzer	PA0941.AP.US	3573

7590

12/12/2007

MARK A. LITMAN & ASSOCIATES, P.A.
Suite 205
York Business Center
3209 West 76th St.
Edina, MN 55435

EXAMINER

LAYNO, BENJAMIN

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3711

DATE MAILED: 12/12/2007

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b) (application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 164 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 164 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (<http://pair.uspto.gov>).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.